

AIR

MAV-18-

Chief of Station, Vienna

Att: ☐

Chief, Foreign Branch H

OPERATIONAL

Iceberg

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1. Thank you for keeping us informed of the current status of the ☐ Project and of W/T operations in general. Obviously, the picture is not too happy at present with only one trained man available should an emergency arise. Even though the likelihood of this appears to be somewhat lessened, nevertheless, the recruitment of radio personnel remains a priority task.

2. The possible reservoirs of such persons are limited, we know. We wonder if it might not be worthwhile to attempt to recruit women for this purpose. Apparently the German intelligence service used girls as operators with great success during World War II. Inasmuch as operators must belong to a category of persons who are not likely to be drafted, forced into labor battalions and moved about at the whim of their own or invading governments in a crisis, and since they should obviously be as inconspicuous as possible, it appears to us that housewives fit the picture as well as any other single group. Women have demonstrated their courage and their powers of endurance and frequently, because of their everyday concern with a variety of manual techniques, possess a special aptitude for learning skills which involve sensitivity of touch.

3. Has any progress been made in the Salzburg area, in the search for burial sites, relay sites, possible candidates, etc there? We shall be most interested to hear what is being done there.

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